

TOWN OF SANDWICH
OLDEST TOWN ON CAPE COD

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



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United States Environmental Protection Agency
Water Technical Unit
PO Box 8127
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Watershed Management
627 Main Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01608

APR 27 2010

Subject: Annual Update - NPDES Phase II General Permit
Town of Sandwich Stormwater Management Plan: Year 7 Update

Dear U.S. EPA and MaDEP:

As required under the NPDES Stormwater General Permit, the Town of Sandwich hereby submits this annual update of the Town's Stormwater Management Plan (SMP). This report is a continuation of the original 5-year permit issued for the Town of Sandwich. During the seventh year, the Town continued many efforts implemented in the initial permit and strove to meet goals that were planned but not met within the first five years. An update of Year 7 accomplishments are listed below and shown in the attached tables.

Year 7 Update

The Town of Sandwich continues to be very proactive in the field of stormwater management and has successfully fulfilled nearly all of its goals established in its Stormwater Management Plan over the 7-year period.

This Annual Update provides a look at major accomplishments, new programs and goals and the status of goals that have not been met as scheduled. Below is a summary of Year 7 implementation.

Major Seventh Year Accomplishments (Spring 2009 - Winter 2010)

Below is a list of some of the significant goals accomplished over the past year. Further details and illustrations of these accomplishments are shown in the attached appendix.

Stormwater Mitigation of Mill Creek

Building on an effort that started back in 1990, the Town of Sandwich has continued implementing BMP retrofits through another state grant (319 - Non-point Source Pollution). Construction of the first phase is complete and construction of the second phase is scheduled to begin this spring. The third and final phase under this state grant will be completed next year. The BMPs installed by this program will mitigate stormwater

pollution entering Mill Creek, a tributary of Sandwich Harbor. The grant also includes an educational aspect, actively involving local students with stormwater matters.

Shellfishing had been prohibited by the State at Sandwich Harbor since 1985 due to bacteriological contamination. Starting with illicit detection inspection in 1990 and continuing with Coastal Pollution Remediation (CPR) grants and now the 319 grant, the Town continues to actively mitigate stormwater impacts in the Town of Sandwich. The Town's efforts to abate pollution, including stormwater mitigation, have resulted in the recent reopening of the shellfish beds by the Division of Marine Fisheries.

In addition to the above work, Sandwich's Natural Resource Department is seeking funds to study and restore Brady's Island Marsh, which is connected to Mill Creek. The study will focus on identifying pollution sources impacting the marsh and methods to rehabilitate the marsh.

Environmental Exposition at Sandwich High School

The Engineering Department attends an Environmental Expo at Sandwich High School each year to view projects completed by the senior class. The Engineering Department assists students throughout their project period by providing mapping and stormwater information related to their local projects.

Sandwich Elementary School Water Festival

The Town continues to participate in Water Festivals held by the Cape Cod Commission and Americorps Cape Cod. These annual events educate elementary students about stormwater impacts and methods to minimize these impacts.

Stormwater Video

Town DPW staff participated in a Stormwater Video developed by the Cape Cod Commission and Americorps Cape Cod titled *Case of the Contaminated Bay*. The video includes local scenes and educates the public about stormwater contamination and methods the public can take to prevent contamination. The video will be shown on local television, web-sites and will also be available for display at other environmental events.

Community Pride Day

The Town of Sandwich continues the annual Community Pride Day where residents participate in the cleanup of the Town. The DPW distributes equipment to assist in the cleanup of trash and identifies locations where residents can focus their efforts, such as at walking trails, roadsides, beaches, marshes and along shorelines. This event helps prevent trash from entering our valuable water bodies.

Stormwater Inspections and Monitoring

The Town continues to monitor erosion control at developments and inspect illicit connections throughout town as part of its SMP. The Town's enforcement of this program has effectively cleaned up many sites, minimizing impacts to the Town's drainage system and water bodies.

Stormwater Management Plan on Display

The Stormwater Management Plan is on display on the Town's web site for public viewing. Additionally, the Town's GIS allows the public to pinpoint specific stormwater problems and relay this information via e-mail to the Department of Public Works. The e-mail shows a map and ID number of the drainage facility so the DPW can quickly respond to any drainage issues. This process also allows accurate record keeping by the DPW.

Water Quality Groups

The Town of Sandwich is proactive in matters related to water quality in Sandwich and on Cape Cod. The Town has many public officials and volunteers actively involved with water quality committees including but not limited to the Sandwich Water Quality Advisory Board, Mass Estuaries Program, Popponesset Bay State DEP Pilot Intra-municipal Work Group and 3 Bays Initiative.

Status of Goals for Year 7

Similar to the original table submitted for the NPDES General Permit, the attached table shows goals proposed for all Six Control Measures. This updated table reflects new goals and the status of Year 1 through 7 goals. The yellow highlighted cells represent goals scheduled and met in each season of respective years. Words highlighted in red represent goals that have not yet been reached. New goals mentioned earlier have also been included in the table.

The attached appendix shows several of the actions performed by the Town to meet the Year 7 goals listed in the table.

Overall Status of 7-Year Permit Term

As can be seen in the attached table, almost all of the goals in the Town's SMP have been met over the 7-year permit period. It's important to note that several new goals were added to the Six Control Measures as the SMP evolved. Goals that were not achieved under the 7-year permit are shown below. In all instances, these goals will be accomplished in future years, as identified in the table. Note: Some of the goals overlap in the Six Control Measures.

Unmet Goals of Six Control Measures

5.1 Public Education & Outreach

1k. Catch Basin Stencils – Future Goal

With assistance from Americorps Cape Cod, the Town will glue approximately 100 storm drain markers and distribute 500 door hangers in the environmentally sensitive Town Neck area of Sandwich, which borders Mill Creek and Sandwich Harbor. This project will begin in the summer of 2010.

5.4 Construction Stormwater Runoff Control

4g. Recommended BMP's – Future Goal

The Town requires developers to design drainage facilities using BMP's. The Town had anticipated the Cape Cod Commission obtaining a grant to create a list of "Cape Cod BMP's" to distribute to developers. Since the grant was not awarded, the Town has begun to develop its own brochure and list of BMP's. This work is underway and is anticipated to be completed in permit year 8.

4i. Erosion Control Guidelines – Future Goal

The Town has begun to update its current Erosion Control Guideline to reflect current BMP practices and design. This guideline will be available for developers and homeowners. The guideline will also complement enforcement letters for non-compliance. This work is underway and is anticipated to be completed in permit year 8.

5.5 Post Construction Stormwater Management

5f. Recommended BMP's – Future Goal. See Unmet Goal 5.2, 4g above.

5h. Erosion Control Guidelines – Future Goal. See Unmet Goal 5.2, 4.i above.

Future Stormwater Management Plan & Permit

As mentioned above, the Town plans to complete the remaining goals of the SMP during the next permit and will continue implementing most of the SMP goals annually.

The Town will add to its SMP goals as necessary to meet compliance requirements of new permits issued by EPA and DEP. Several of the preliminary requirements for the new permit listed in the EPA letter dated August 3, 2007 are goals that the Town of Sandwich has already implemented. The Town anticipates that it will be able to comply with the others as staffing and funding becomes available.

Conclusion

The Town of Sandwich's accomplishments over the past seven years meet or exceed nearly all of the scheduled goals. Additionally, new goals have been created to further enhance the Town's Stormwater Management Plan. We trust that these accomplishments will satisfy the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the United States Environmental Protection Agency requirements for this permit. Please contact Sam Jensen of the Sandwich Engineering Department if you have any questions or require further information regarding the Year 7 Annual Update.

Sincerely,



Samuel J.P. Jensen, P.E.
Assistant Town Engineer

Encl.

cc: G. Dunham, Town Manager
P. Tilton, DPW Director, Town Engineer